

Serial Number 09/926,517

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested on the grounds that claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 10, and claim 14 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 19. Since claims 10 and 19 were indicated as allowable in item 5 on page 3 of the Official Action, the new rejection under 35 USC §102(b) is moot.

It is noted that claim 18 has also been canceled because it is no longer consistent with amended claim 14.

Having thus overcome each of the objections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the objections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Urcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Date: December 20, 2005

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